

THE REVENUE OF MURPHY

Copyright, 1900, by James Barnes.

No man knew the immediate locality that had produced Trooper Murphy. He claimed he was a New York "bobby," and held to the distant tropic as it was his native home, and natural tropic as it was his native home, and natural tropic as it was his native home.

Murphy had just appeared by the regulations as to height, and certainly was not more than one or two pennyweight over the scale. But he was limit as to height, and certainly was not more than one or two pennyweight over the scale.

Murphy was a favorite too. His laugh was catching. He had a high, high pitched voice, and dancing blue eyes, and red hair, and a thick as a rock chin. If it had not been for this heavy shield like face, Murphy's captain said he would have never succeeded in passing the examining sergeant. There was a full career of an inch of it. All this goes to show that Murphy was but five feet four inches, and his personal appearance. As to his age, it might have been 22, or it might have been 30, at all events it was something between. He claimed to be 26.

It was a broiling hot day, which in a title and usual description to convey the idea that the weather was uncomfortably warm. It had rained for nearly three months, and the ground was with a few hard spots of the northeast corner of the parade ground, had dwindled down to a narrow little stream, that wiggled along through a dusty bed. A troop of horses being driven down to water raised a cloud that drifted up the bank like the smoke of a fire. The buffalo grass on the prairie that stretched out beyond the post was gray ashy and matted. The deep shadows of the stables and barracks and the officers' quarters looked to be painted on the ground with dark blue pigment. They were the only restful things for the eye to find.

Lying prone on the ground in the shade back of B troop's quarters was a group of enlisted men. The uniforms were nondescript. Some wore their canvas stable shoes and men. One wore a pair of moccasins and faded blue breeches. Some wore boots, some were in stocking feet. They had ceased cursing the weather, and were all absorbed in one discussion.

"I used the beginning of it," said a lanky, rather tough looking lad, who was smoking a cigarette, with another one stuck behind his ear, pen-fish-like. "I used the beginning of it."

"You ain't seen the new girl at the Major's," the Dutchman's got a new girl on him. It's a good thing he doesn't play the horn.

Here another man, with a brick red face and a long, unburned mustache, broke in. It was a damn good fight," he grunted, "but the fellow would have killed him. They were mauling him was unmerciful."

"Just like a bilgey tackling a bull," remarked a man on the outside of the group, rolling over on his elbows. Then, as if quite pleased with his metaphor, he repeated it. "A bilgey tackling a bull—Schneider made no report of it."

"You ain't seen the new girl at the Major's and the lad who first spoke," the little fellow. It takes a lot of a pound."

"That's no lie," remarked a man with a red face. "But the ugly Dutchman could lick three of him. He's too big to put on a horse's back, anyhow."

At this minute the dust rose again, and the horses started. The group broke up. A figure in uniform just then crossed the open space that led from the barracks to the officers' quarters. The shrilling horn had not taken all the spring out of this fellow. His shoulders were well back, his trunk bucked to the throat, and he stepped briskly out like a man with a purpose before him. If one of the group had been looking at the figure, he would have noticed a peculiar thing. Both his eyes were apparently shut tight, but it was not to avoid the glare of the sun. There was a slight abrasion on his upper lip, another at the corner of his ear, and his jaw was badly swollen.

Lieut. Blair Carter, who was sitting on the veranda with his feet on the red, dressed in a cool suit was watching the approaching figure, smiling. The story of the fight, although unreported, had reached his ears.

"Well, Murphy," said the lieutenant, acknowledging fairly the salute "he's the horse."

"The former made 'had job' showing the one-headed man," said the sergeant, and he told him it was wasting time to monkey with it.

"For heaven's sake, Murphy, can you see out of those eyes?" replied Murphy, wiping the perspiration off his stiff upper lip with the back of his hand. The eyes, it is said, were not hurt, but the nose was bleeding, and the eyes were not hurt, but the nose was bleeding, and the eyes were not hurt, but the nose was bleeding.

"I'll come over and look at him this afternoon. Didn't have much luck with that last bunch, did it?"

"No, sir, we did not."

"Is there anything else, Murphy?"

"No, sir."

"That's all. With shoulders erect, but to all appearance, as blind as a bat, strode off on his little bow legs down the board walk toward the stables."

The lieutenant picked up his paper, saw that his sister had just given a big party on board the "Colonel's" yacht, and he was looking at the winners at the Rockaway races. Then he heard footstep and looking up saw that a colored man, who he had seen before, was standing at his door. The man was a colored man, and he was looking at the winners at the Rockaway races.

"What's the matter with you, Murphy?"

"I don't know, sir. I was looking at the winners at the Rockaway races."

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THE BLUE QUAIL OF TEXAS.

A GAME BIRD THAT TRIES THE SKILL OF THE SPORTSMAN.

It dwells in Cactus Tangles With Battle-snakes and Can Fly to Corkers or Backward With Tremendous Force.

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TO SAVE TRUSTEES' HALL.

BUILDING RESPECTED OF EDUCATORS BECAUSE OF ITS MEMORIES.

Sentiment in Favor of Preserving the Old Trustees' Hall.

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BITS OF FAMOUS FLAGS.

Interesting Historical Collection Added to the Washington Exhibition.

An interesting historical collection has been discovered among the mass of material belonging to the Library of Congress and just transferred from the Capitol to the new Library building.

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